

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MERIDA 00169 131630Z

63

ACTION SCSE-00

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INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS MERIDA 0169

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPRS(WOOLWINDER, ED)

SUBJ: RECOVERY OF VESSEL "JENNY"

REF: UNCLAS STATE 168594

H PASS: SENATOR TALMADGE

1. VESSEL STILL IN COZUMEL UNDER CONTROL OF MINISTERIO
PUBLICO FEDERAL LOCATED AT CHETUMAL, QUINTANA ROO.

2. MEXICO CITY LAW FIRM OF GOODRICH, DALTON, LITTLE AND
RIQUELME IS HANDLING CASE AND ONE OF THEIR ATTORNEYS THIS
DATE CONFERRED WITH PRINCIPAL OFFICER. DIFFICULTY NOW
APPEARS TO BE THAT MEXICAN BUSINESSMEN ON COZUMEL WHO PUR-
CHASED VESSEL FROM THIEF ARE PLACING LEGAL OBSTACLES IN
PATH OF RECOVERY BY OWNER. QUITE NATURALLY, THE BUSINESS-
MEN WISH TO RECOVER THEIR INVESTMENT.

3. IN CONSULATE'S OPINION, THIS CASE COULD HAVE BEEN RE-
SOLVED VERY EARLY IN THE GAME IF THE INSURANCE COMPANY
IN THE US HAD ACTED PROMPTLY IN PRESENTING THE CLAIM FOR
THE VESSEL BEFORE THE OFFICIALS IN COZUMEL. THEIR DELAY
IN APPEARING IN COZUMEL WITH PROPER DOCUMENTATION PERMIT-
TED LEGAL INTERVENTION BY THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT THEREBY UNNE-
CESSARILY COMPLICATING THE MATTER.
ASHFORD

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